



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : Richard J. Schultz  
FOR : **SURGICAL INSTRUMENT CLEANING  
BRUSH**  
SERIAL NO. : 10/749755  
FILED : December 30, 2003  
EXAMINER : unknown  
ART UNIT : unknown  
CONFIRMATION NO. : unknown  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : SSIC 2 00002

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609, applicant(s) submit(s) the following Disclosure Statement concerning art of which the applicant(s) is (are) aware. A copy of PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein or submitted herewith is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with the United States Patent and Trademark Office OG Notice dated 05 August 2003, waiving the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, Applicant(s) has not enclosed copies of the cited U.S. patents with this Disclosure.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Under § 1.98(a)(3), no concise explanation of relevance is required for information that is in the English language. Accordingly, the enclosed require(s) no further explanation (or no translation is available).

Consideration of the appropriate paragraph(s) indicated below is respectfully requested:

☐ **WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING:** Under § 1.97(b)(1), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☒ **BEFORE FIRST OFFICE ACTION:** Under § 1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☐ **INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT:** Under § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☐ **BEFORE FINAL ACTION/WITH FEE:** Under § 1.97(c)(2), this information shall be considered if filed before the mailing date of a final action if accompanied by a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by §1.17(p). Accordingly, the necessary fee accompanies this Information Disclosure Statement. Any overpayment or deficiency can be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☐ **PRIORITY CLAIM:** The attached PTO 1449 Form includes all patents, publications, or other information previously cited by or submitted to the Office in one or more prior applications from which the present application claims priority. These one or more prior applications are identified in the papers accompanying the filing of this application. In accordance with § 609 MPEP, only copies of art not previously submitted are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the attached document(s) be considered and officially cited in examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 19, 2004  
Date

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING


I certify that this Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying document(s) are being

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

☐ transmitted to facsimile number under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 on the date indicated below.

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<b>Express Mail Label No.:</b>
<b>Date</b> 4-20-04

<b>Signature</b> 
<b>Printed Name</b> Elaine M. Checovich

Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S)</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)	<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
	Application Number	10/749,755
	Filing Date	December 30, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Richard J. Schultz
	Art Unit	unknown
	Examiner Name	unknown
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket No.	SSIC 2 00002

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document No. Number-Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	US-2002/0120995	09/05/2002	Brezler, III, et al.	
	AB	US 2001/0000481	04/26/2001	Edwards, et al.	
	AC	US 5,319,823	06/14/1994	Baum, et al.	
	AD	US-6,096,151	08/01/2000	Edwards, et al.	
	AE	US 6,260,229	07/17/2001	Edwards, et al.	
	AF	US-6,269,514	08/07/2001	Edwards, et al.	
	AG	US-6,295,994	10/02/2001	Thayer, et al.	
	AH	US-6,434,778	08/20/2002	Edwards, et al.	
	AI	US-			
	AJ	US-			
	AK	US-			
	AL	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Country Code-Number Kind Code (if known)				
	AM					
	AN					
	AO					
	AP					

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T
	AQ	<u>If It's Not Clean, It Can't be Sterile!</u> , Spectrum Surgical Instruments Repairs, Instrument Accessories, brochure	
	AR	<u>Instrument Processing Essentials</u> , Spectrum Surgical Instruments Repairs, Instrument Accessories, 6 <sup>TH</sup> Edition, pages 3, 4, 9, 10 and 13	
	AS	<u>Soap It! Soak It!</u> , Spectrum Surgical Instruments Repairs, Instrument Accessories, brochure	
	AT	Descriptive Brochure on Brightline™ Nylon-AB,	
	AU		
	AV		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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